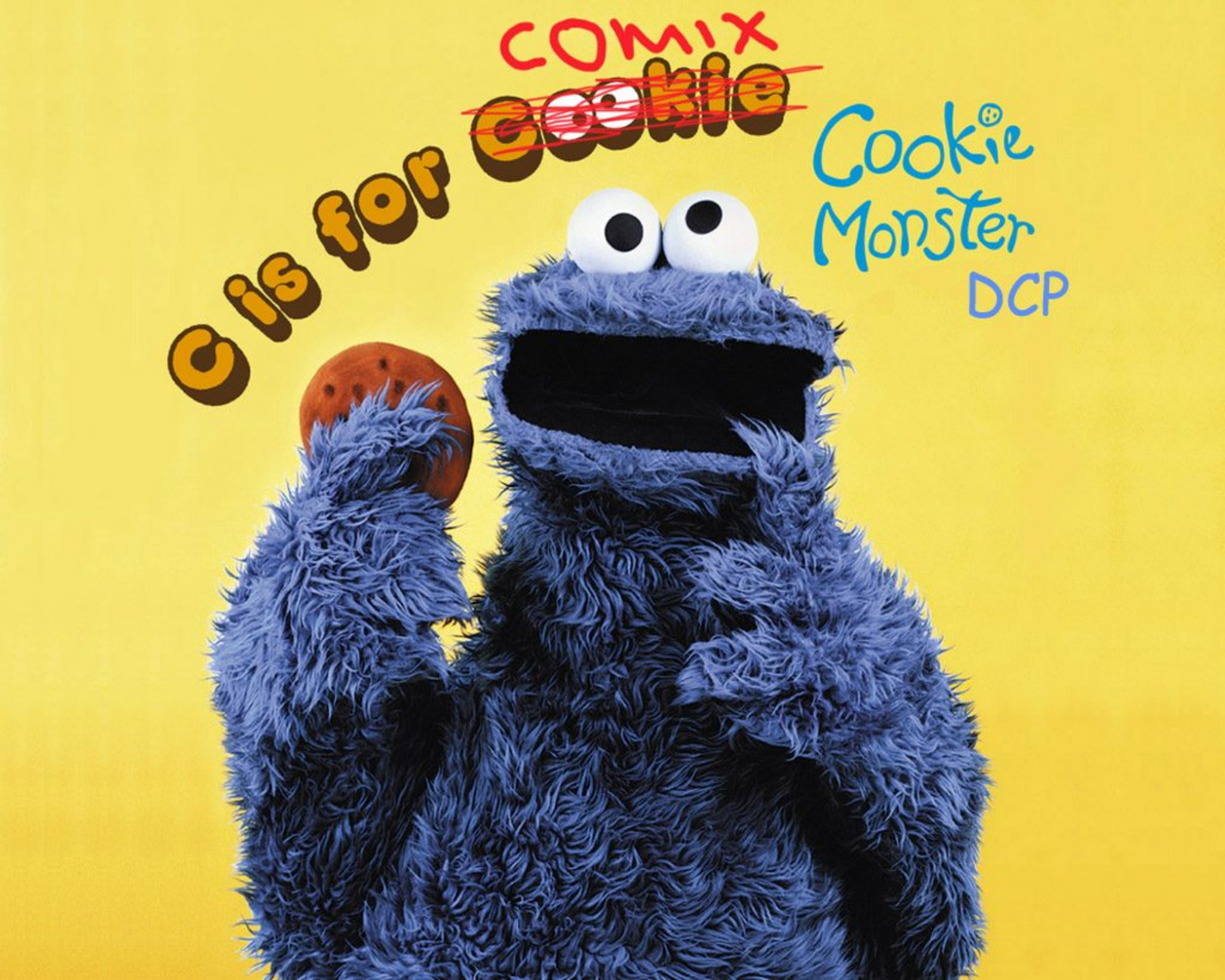
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DAUGHTERS OF THE DRAGON

PREVIOUSLY:

Following the dramatic sword-slashing battle between Misty Knight and Ricadonna, which resulted in the loss of both Misty's bionic arm and the virus chip, insect master Humbug called upon his minions to rescue Misty from certain death. Humbug's heroic act further blurred the lines between hero and villain. Misty was relocated to Stark Labs for medical attention under the watchful eye of Tony Stark, a.k.a. Iron Man. Outfitted with a new state-of-the-art arm, Misty, with the help of Humbug and Colleen Wing, discovered the secret location where the virus chip would be auctioned off to the highest bidder among several terrorist and super-villain syndicates. But Misty, steaming from her lost bout, decides to spend the night with her former boyfriend...Danny Rand, a.k.a. IRON FIST...

SOUL BROTHERS OF KUNG FU
JUSTIN GRAY & JIMMY PALMIOTTI

FEROCIOUS MONK
KHARI EVANS

FIVE FINGERS OF STEEL
JIMMY PALMIOTTI

GOD OF KILLERS
CHRISTINA STRAIN

IRON CHAIN FIGHTER
ARTMONKEYS' DAVE LANPHEAR

PRODIGAL ASSASSIN
RICH GINTER

YOUNG MASTER
NATHAN COSBY

MAGNIFICENT FIRST
MARK PANICCIA

ONE-MAN ARMY
JOE QUESADA

THE BIG BOSS
DAN BUCKLEY

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THE APARTMENT OF MISTY KNIGHT...

I NEEDED TO BLOW OFF SOME STEAM AFTER MY *ARGUMENT* WITH COLLEEN.

MISTY, I THINK I NEED AN I.V. DRIP AND SOME PANCAKES.

WHAT YOU *NEED IS* TO REPLACE MY HEADBOARD AND LAMP, DANNY.

ALL JOKING ASIDE, HOW ARE YOU GOING TO HANDLE THE *RICADONNA* SITUATION?

SUGAR, THAT BIMBO IS *ALREADY* DEAD. SHE JUST DOESN'T *KNOW* IT YET.

COLLEEN AND I ARE GOING TO HIT THE AUCTION WITH *EVERYTHING* WE HAVE. I BORROWED SOME *AUTOMATED CAMERAS* FROM TONY STARK. I'LL USE THEM TO RECORD THE TRANSACTION TO CLEAR MY ASS IN THE *LIKELY* EVENT THAT PEOPLE DIE.

I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO SECURE SOME HIGHLY IMPRESSIVE WEAPONS.

I WOULD THINK YOU WOULD HAVE TO...I MEAN, JUST THE *TWO OF YOU* AGAINST HYDRA, THE HAND AND WHO KNOWS *WHAT* ELSE?

I WAS HOPING WE COULD COUNT ON *IRON FIST* FOR BACKUP.

THE LAMP WAS *YOUR* FAULT.

DOESN'T MATTER...MY HOUSE, MY RULES.

I WAS *HOPING* YOU'D SAY THAT.

DOWNTOWN...

IAIDO GREW FROM THE NEED TO DEFEND AGAINST A *SURPRISE* ATTACK. SLOW REACTIONS MEANT *DEATH*, SO THE SAMURAI NEEDED TO MASTER THE ART OF *SENSING* AN ATTACK, DRAWING HIS SWORD AND *STRIKING* HIS OPPONENT IN ONE *FLUID* MOTION.

FLOWERS

YOU MEAN *HER* SWORD, AND I HARDLY NEED A *HISTORY* LESSON ON FEUDAL JAPAN.

OF COURSE, COLLEEN.

WE'VE BEEN TRAINING *TOGETHER* FOR A YEAR. ARE YOU *EVER* GOING TO TELL ME YOUR NAME? I FEEL REALLY SILLY CALLING YOU *AMERICAN SAMURAI*.

MY BIRTH NAME DIED ALONG WITH MY BODY IN A JAPANESE LABOR CAMP DURING *WORLD WAR TWO*. WHEN THE KEEPERS OF THE KOAN RESURRECTED ME WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE *SAMURAI* I BECAME A *NEW* MAN.

IT SOUNDS LIKE THE TITLE TO A SAM FIRSTENBERG MOVIE. MAYBE I'LL CALL YOU JOE ARMSTRONG. YOU LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT?

IF YOU SEEK TO *DISTRACT* ME...

...IT WILL NOT WORK!

SHHAAHHH

YOUR SKILL IS *IMPRESSIVE* AS ALWAYS.

YOU'RE NOT BAD *EITHER*, BUT THAT ARMOR SLOWS YOU DOWN AND THAT PONYTAIL IS SO *NINETIES*...

AGAIN, YOU STRIKE AT MY VANITY, YET YOU ALREADY KNOW I HAVE NONE.

HEY, NO FAIR USING MAGIC. CHEATER!

A SMART WARRIOR USES ALL THE WEAPONS AT HIS DISPOSAL.

DOES SHE NOW?

NNNNNZIPPP

MISS WING!

MAGICAL, AREN'T THEY?

SSSLLLISSSHHHHH

YOU'VE SEEN ENOUGH.

ZZZIIIPPPPP

INTERESTING...I DIDN'T THINK ***YOU'D*** FALL FOR THAT. IT'S NOT VERY ***ZEN*** OF YOU, AMERICAN SAMURAI.

I ***WIN***...AGAIN. BUT THANKS FOR THE ***WORKOUT.***

I THOUGHT WE SAID NO STRIKES TO THE FACE.

DID WE?

YES, I DISTINCTLY ***REMEMBER*** WE AGREED ON IT. I HAVE A DATE WITH ***PRINCESS PYTHON*** TONIGHT. I CAN'T HAVE HER SEEING ME LIKE THIS.

PRINCESS PYTHON? WITH A NAME LIKE THAT YOU'RE JUST ***ASKING*** FOR TROUBLE. DO YOURSELF A FAVOR AND JUST USE A HEADBAND TO COVER THE WOUND...IT'LL GO WITH THE PONYTAIL...

HER REAL NAME IS ZELDA DUBOIS. SHE TOLD ME SHE'S A ***REFORMED*** MEMBER OF THE ***CIRCUS OF CRIME.***

YOU VIGILANTES LOVE YOUR BAD GIRLS. JUST BE CAREFUL AND DO ME THE FAVOR OF NOT JOINING THE CIRCUS. I NEED MY SPARRING PARTNER.

I APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS.

THREE HOURS LATER...

GOLDEN DRAGON

REMEMBER, IF *STILT MAN* SKIPS BAIL, WE COME LOOKING FOR HIM AND *YOU*... COMPRENDE?

DON'T *SWEAT* IT, MISTY.

DON'T *MAKE ME* SWEAT IT, ORKA.

YOU BOYS HAVE FUN AT THE BAR LAST NIGHT?

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.

HE HAD ONE TOO MANY *APPLE MARTINIS* AND TRASHED THE PLACE. DRAG QUEENS WERE *FLYING* IN ALL DIRECTIONS. IT WAS *PAINFUL* TO WATCH.

YOU STILL MAD AT ME?

I *SHOULD* BE...BUT, NO.

YOU CAN'T STAY MAD AT ME FOR LONG, CAN YOU?

I CONSIDER IT A CHARACTER *FLAW*.

IRON FIST AND THE DAUGHTERS OF THE DRAGON...THROWING DOWN WITH NINJAS AND LIKE-MINDED MISCREANTS.

HOW EXCITING! IT'LL BE JUST LIKE *OLD TIMES*.

COME ON, WE HAVE TO MEET *SOMEONE*.

WHATEVER, LET'S TALK SHOP.

INTEL FROM HUMBUG SAYS WE'RE LOOKING AT A CONCRETE PARKING GARAGE, ONE WAY IN AND ONE WAY OUT.

THAT'S A PLUS AND A MINUS.

EVERYONE'LL BE TRAPPED WITH LIMITED MANEUVERABILITY. YOU KNOW *I* LIKE TIGHT SPACES...

I KNOW... I'M NOT WORRIED. I'LL CALL IN SOME FAVORS TO GIVE US THE ADVANTAGE, AND I RECRUITED DANNY FOR BACKUP.

RED HOOK, BROOKLYN, ONE HOUR LATER.

WHY?

YOU *KNOW* WHY.

HE'S A *PSYCHOPATH.*

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE *QUALIFIED* TO MAKE THAT ASSESSMENT.

KILL... ME...

LOOK AROUND AT THIS LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS. DO I *NEED* QUALIFICATIONS?

AIIEEEEE!!!

WHAT WAS *THAT?*

SOUNDED LIKE A *BLOOD-CURDLING* SCREAM.

YOU'RE *EARLY.*

WE CATCH YOU AT A BAD TIME, *PUNISHER?*

BAD TIME FOR OTHERS, FINE FOR ME.

YOU KNOW *WHAT* WE WANT.

WHY SHOULD I *HELP* YOU?

BECAUSE WE'RE *CUTE?*

WE'RE GOING TO BUST A WHOLE BUNCH OF NINJA, TRIADS, MOBSTERS, HYDRA AGENTS, MAYBE SOME A.I.M. DUDES AND POSSIBLY EVEN SOME COSTUMED TRANSVESTITES.

WHAT DO YOU SAY?

FOLLOW ME.

WHAT YOU'RE *INTO* SOUNDS LIKE IT MIGHT *INTEREST* ME.

TRUST ME, IT DOESN'T. THIS GIG IS *PERSONAL.*

FINE. TAKE WHAT YOU NEED. RETURN THEM CLEANED.

DO MUCH *LOGGING* IN BROOKLYN?

IS IT GETTING HOT IN HERE OR IS IT ME?

I GOT *SOMETHING* YOU CAN USE, WING.

OOOH, *KAMA!* PRETTY!

I MIGHT HAVE TO *RECONSIDER* MY POSITION ON YOU, PUNISHER.

DON'T.

LET'S MOVE TO STAGE TWO.

I DON'T *UNDERSTAND* WHY WE'RE DOWN *HERE.*

YOU WILL SOON.

WHAT IS THAT?

CURTIS MAYFIELD. THE THEME TO *SUPERFLY.*

I KNOW IT'S CURTIS MAYFIELD, BUT WHY ARE WE IN THE *SEWER* WITH A RADIO PLAYING THE THEME SONG TO SUPERFLY?

OKAY, *NOW* I GET IT.

ACTUALLY, NO, I *DON'T.* WHY ARE WE GOING TO SEE THE MOLE MAN?

THE AUCTION TAKES PLACE IN AN *UNDERGROUND* PARKING GARAGE. ONE WAY IN AND ONE WAY OUT, BUT I *FIGURE* MOLE MAN MIGHT BE ABLE TO *REMEDY* THAT SITUATION.

HMMM, YOU SO CLEVER, MISTY.

I KNOW.

AHH, THE LOVELY *DAUGHTERS OF THE DRAGON!* HOW NICE TO HAVE COMPANY.

WHAT'S UP, MOLE MAN? SCHEMING ON ANOTHER NEFARIOUS PLAN TO CONQUER THE SURFACE WORLD?

HI, MOLEY.

WE NEED A LITTLE HELP. THERE'S A PARKING GARAGE AND I NEED TO KNOW IF THERE'S AN UNDER-GROUND WAY IN AND OUT.

IF THERE ISN'T, MOLE MAN CAN ALWAYS HAVE ONE CUSTOM-MADE.

YOU'D DO THAT FOR US, MOLEY?

NO, MISTY, I'M KEEPING MY NOSE CLEAN THESE DAYS. THINGS ARE TOO *COMPLICATED* UP THERE. THE MOLE MAN PREFERS THE WORLD HE MADE FOR HIMSELF.

WHAT BRINGS YOU DOWN?

THE MOLE MAN STILL OWES YOU GIRLS A DEBT, DOES HE NOT?

YES, YOU DO.

THEN CONSIDER IT DONE. I'LL SEND SOME OF MY WORKERS THERE IMMEDIATELY.

THANKS, MOLE.

I DO WISH YOU GIRLS WOULD *RECONSIDER* MY PREVIOUS OFFER. YOU WOULD BE MY *QUEENS...* I COULD DRESS YOU IN *DIAMONDS* FROM HEAD TO TOE.

THE MOLE MAN HAS SO MUCH *BLING* AND NO ONE TO SHARE IT WITH.

PLEASE... DON'T SAY BLING... EVER AGAIN.

TIME FOR PHASE THREE.

RICADONNA'S HQ.

I GOT THE CHIP... IT'S IN ***PERFECT*** CONDITION. WHERE'D YOU GET THIS ARM, RICADONNA?

I TOOK IT OFF A BIG-HAIRED BOUNTY HUNTER GOES BY THE NAME OF ***MISTY KNIGHT.***

WITH THIS, WE'RE SET FOR THE AUCTION.

THANK YOU, ***MEMBRANE.*** THE MAD THINKER'S COMPUTER CHIP IS GOING TO MAKE US RICH.

THERE'S GOING TO BE A FIRST-RATE NUMBER OF ***INSALUBRIOUS*** INHABITANTS AT THIS SALE, BOSS. I'M ***APPREHENSIVE*** ABOUT THE SETTING.

WE ONLY HAVE ONE EGRESS FROM WHICH TO DEPART. SHOULD SUCH A DEPARTURE ***NECESSITATE*** HASTE AND ***GUNPLAY,*** WE COULD FIND OURSELVES ***ENSNARED.***

JULIUS, MY ***OVEREDUCATED*** KILLING MACHINE, WE'LL BE FINE. IF ANY OF THE OTHER KIDS WANT TO PLAY ***ROUGH,*** THEN IT'S THEIR FUNERAL.

THE SETTING WORKS IN ***OUR*** FAVOR.

WHAT EXACTLY DOES THIS THING DO?

EXCELLENT QUESTION. WHY ***WOULD*** A HANDFUL OF THE WORLD'S MOST DANGEROUS TERRORISTS AND OUTLAW NATIONS WANT A TINY LITTLE COMPUTER CHIP?

WITH IT, THEY CAN ***DESTABILIZE*** THE WORLD ECONOMY, SHIFT UNTRACEABLE FUNDS, AND SHUT DOWN THE AMERICAN STOCK MARKET FOR ***STARTERS.*** INVENTIVE MINDS COULD ALSO CRASH ALL MAJOR ***DEFENSE SYSTEMS*** IN ANY GIVEN COUNTRY.

ANARCHY, WAR, FAMINE AND TOTALITARIAN ***REGIMES***... VERY NICE. AND EXACTLY HOW ARE ***WE*** IMMUNE TO THIS?

I HAVE THE ***ANTIVIRUS*** THAT LOCKS IT OUT, OF COURSE.

IF ALL GOES WELL, WE'LL ALL BE ***RELOCATING*** TO A PROPER ***DESERTED ISLAND PARADISE*** TO LIVE IN THE LAP OF LUXURY WHILE THE ***REST OF THE WORLD*** TUMBLES INTO CHAOS.

WILL THERE BE A ***VOLCANO*** ON THIS ISLAND?

DO I LOOK LIKE A JAMES BOND ***VILLAIN*** TO YOU?

ONLY AN ***IDIOT*** WOULD CONSTRUCT HER ***MALEVOLENT KINGDOM*** ON A LANDMASS WITH A VIGOROUS ***VOLCANO***, AND AS WE KNOW, THE ***MISTRESS*** IS FAR FROM IGNORANT.

YOU SAY THE ***SWEETEST*** THINGS, JULIUS.

YOUR ***BEAUTY*** INSPIRES.

NOW YOU'RE TRYING A LITTLE ***TOO HARD***. GO READY THE TROOPS.

DOWNSTAIRS...

HOLA, BOYS. IT'S MY FIRST DAY.

YOU WORKING HERE?

THAT'S THE PLAN.

NOBODY TOLD US YOU WERE COMIN'. I'M HENRICO AND THIS IS HECTOR.

I'M *CAROL SPEED*. WHERE DO I STASH MY STUFF?

I'LL SHOW YOU 'ROUND, CAROL.

I *WANNA* SHOW HER AROUND.

EASY, BOYS. YOU CAN *BOTH* SHOW ME.

WE ONLY HAVE ONE LOCKER ROOM.

I DON'T MIND *SHARING*.

BUT YOU BOYS NEED TO TAKE A NAP.

OTIS, I'M IN. COME ON DOWN.

VRRRRRM

THIS IS *YOUR* RIDE?

CAN YOU *DIG* IT?

OTIS, WHO DO YOU *THINK* YOU ARE, *RON O'NEAL*?

WHO?

NO TIME... YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

YEAH, *MISTY* GAVE ME THE NEWS. I'M EXCITED. I'VE NEVER GONE *UNDERCOVER* BEFORE.

IT SHOWS.

OKAY, *SUPERFLY*, GET THOSE BOYS TO A *SAFE* LOCATION AND GET YOUR BUTT BACK HERE A.S.A.P. I'M GOING DOWN TO SET UP.

SIX HOURS LATER.

YOU READY TO DO THIS?

ABSOLUTELY.

THANK YOU, SIR. PLEASE PROCEED TO THE ELEVATOR. NONE OF THE GUESTS HAVE ARRIVED YET.

YOU'RE NOT THE ***REGULAR*** ATTENDANT.

YEAH...HE GOT PINCHED BY NARCOTICS AND ASKED IF I'D PITCH IN. NO WORRIES, I USED TO BE WITH A.I.M. SO I'M DOWN WITH EVIL. I'M AN EVIL MUTANT.

AUTHENTICATE MY APPREHENSION.

CA-CHOW

SEE, MAN, WE'RE ALL GOOD. I TOOK THIS GIG AS A FAVOR BECAUSE I'M UNKILLABLE AND KEEP TO MYSELF.

GOOD FOR YOU. PARK THE CARS AND KEEP YOUR ORAL CAVITY FASTENED.

ALL RIGHT, PEOPLE. LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED.

WE'LL OPEN THE BIDDING AT ONE BILLION. AS YOU KNOW, ALL FUNDS WILL BE WIRED OVERSEAS INSTANTLY BY THE WINNING BID. ANY FAILURE TO DO SO MEANS IT GOES RIGHT TO THE NEXT HIGHEST BIDDER.

HOW DO WE KNOW THE CHIP IS AUTHENTIC?

BECAUSE I SAY IT IS.

ANYONE THAT HAS A PROBLEM WITH THAT CAN LEAVE RIGHT NOW.

WHAT IS *THIS*?

FSSSSSSS

THAT WOULD BE SUBTERFUGE.

TO BE FOLLOWED BY COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF HACKING AND SLASHING.

COLLEEN? WHY DO I HEAR GUNFIRE?

I GOT BORED WITH WAITING SO I STARTED EARLY.

KILL HER!

SHE'S ONLY *ONE* GIRL!

YOU WHAT?!

MY LEGS... THEY WERE CRAMPING UP.

THAT'S *BULL!* I *KNOW* YOU WANTED TO TAKE THEM DOWN *YOURSELF.*

I'LL TRY TO *SAVE* YOU SOME.

YOU BETTER! RICADONNA IS MINE!

UMM... *MISTY*... I COULD USE ONE OF YOUR *DRAMATIC* ENTRANCES!

BOOM!

GIRL, THERE'S ABOUT TO BE ALL KINDS OF KUNG FU UP IN HERE!

To Be Concluded!